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Environment and Transportation Committee

*Chair*  
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Subcommittee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
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Delegate C.T. Wilson  
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Mr. Chairman,

In Maryland, an individual may not be issued more than one Class A license for either the use of the individual, corporation, or partnership.<sup>1</sup> A Class A wine, beer and liquor license is issued by the license issuing authority of the jurisdiction in which the establishment is located. The license authorizes the holder to sell any quantity of alcoholic beverages at the place of business stated in the license.<sup>2</sup>

HB 1424 clarifies that with certain exceptions, no more than one liquor license can be issued to an individual within a single jurisdiction. Additionally, this bill increases the number of Class A alcoholic beverage licenses that may be issued to an individual from one to four. This does not guarantee that business holders will automatically receive an additional license, as they're still subject to the license application process. Retailers would increase revenue by serving Class A beverages in establishments located in different jurisdictions. This bill would open the pool so that a larger number of retailers can distribute alcohol throughout the state.

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<sup>1</sup> "2022 Maryland Statutes :: Alcoholic Beverages :: Division I - General Provisions Affecting Multiple Jurisdictions :: Title 4 - Local Licensing :: Subtitle 2 - Issuance or Denial of Local Licenses :: Section 4-203 - Prohibition against Issuing Multiple Licenses to Individual or for Use of Entity," Justia Law, 2022, <https://law.justia.com/codes/maryland/2022/alcoholic-beverages/division-i/title-4/subtitle-2/section-4-203/>.

<sup>2</sup> "Maryland Alcoholic Beverages Section 6-101," Justia Law, n.d., <https://law.justia.com/codes/maryland/2005/g2B/6-101.html>.